

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01993 101848Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CU-04 SSO-00 SS-15 SAJ-01 PA-02

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O R 101736Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9735

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 1993

FOR EUR/SOV

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR BROWN: WORLD TEAM TENNIS

REF: 75 STATE 184648

1. SOVIET SPORTS FEDERATION TENNIS DIVISION CONCERNED THAT UNEXPLAINED OBSTACLES AND OBJECTIONS MAY PRECLUDE MUCH PUBLICIZED AND ANTICIPATED US-SOVIET TENNIS MATCHES ENVISAGED FOR MARCH 8 AND 9 IN MOSCOW WITH FURTHER COMPETITION FOLLOWING WEEK IN USA. ARRANGEMENT HAD BEEN TIED DOWN, SOVIETS FELT, IN DECEMBER VISIT BY LARRY KING OF WORLD TEAM TENNIS, WHO CONCLUDED EARLY SEPTEMBER DISCUSSIONS BEGUN ON BEHALF OF WTT BY EX-GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA BROWN.

2. ACCORDING SOVIET SPORTS FEDERATION, AMERICAN TENNIS FEDERATION APPROVED THE PROPOSAL, AND SO INFORMED SOVIETS BY TELEGRAM OF FEBRUARY FOUR. ON FOLLOWING DAY, HOWEVER, TELEGRAM RECEIVED SAYING US FEDERATION COULD NOT APPROVE MATCHES BUT WOULD BE MEETING TO DISCUSS MATTER ON FEBRUARY ELEVEN WITH PARTICIPATION MEMBERS INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION.

3. EMBASSY HAS OFFERED ENCOURAGEMENT AND INFORMAL ADVICE TO GOVERNOR BROWN AND TO LARRY KING, AND WE UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE MOST INTERESTED IN SUCCESS THIS PROJECT AS IT WAS

ORIGINALLY DESCRIBED. IF DEPARTMENT FEELS IT ADVISABLE,
WOULD BE PLEASED BE QUOTED EXPRESSING VIEW SUCH
INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENTS SERVE COMMON INTERESTS
IN UNIQUELY EFFECTIVE WAY. SHOULD PROJECT MATERIALIZE,
EMBASSY WOULD OFFER ALLPROPER SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE-
MENT. AS AVAILABLE, WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT ON STATE
OF PLAY.

STOESSEL

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